

CHATHAM-SAVANNAH COUNTER

NARCOTICS TEAM

Everett Ragan, Director



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man Arrested for Pointing a Firearm at a CNT Agent

Pooler, Georgia (October 29, 2018): One man is in custody after pointing a firearm at a Chatham-Savannah Counter Narcotics Team (CNT) agent.

On October 10, 2018, at around 9:00pm, a CNT agent was conducting surveillance and lawfully parked his unmarked vehicle in the 600 block of Cliff Drive in Pooler, Georgia. Shortly after parking the vehicle, the agent observed a person with a light coming from a nearby residence and walking towards the vehicle. Without warning, the person attempted to open the vehicle from the outside, found the vehicle to be locked, and began flashing the light inside the vehicle while yelling at the agent. Also during this time, the agent noticed the light was attached to the end of a handgun meaning the person had a firearm pointed at the agent and at one point “chambered a round” into the firearm. The agent inside the vehicle identified himself as a police officer by showing his badge in an attempt to de-escalate the situation and drove off. The person with the light was identified as 45-year-old Michael Christopher McTarsney of Pooler. McTarsney called police after the agent left and reported a suspicious person.

Between the incident and October 26, CNT made unsuccessful attempts to speak with McTarsney regarding the incident. On Friday, October 26, 2018, CNT with the assistance of the Pooler Police Department executed a search warrant at McTarsney’s residence located in the 600 block of Cliff Drive in Pooler. The search warrant resulted in the seizure of a pistol, a flashlight that could be mounted to a pistol, and other items of evidentiary value. McTarsney was arrested without incident and charged with Pointing or Aiming a Pistol at Another and Disorderly Conduct. Both charges are misdemeanors. McTarsney was taken to the Chatham County Detention Center where he has since been released on bond.

Like all law enforcement agencies, CNT highly encourages the public to take an active role in being vigilant of suspicious activity and helping to keep their

neighborhoods safe. With that, it is imperative citizens properly report the behavior to the authorities and not put themselves at risk by getting involved. Said CNT Director Everett Ragan, "Though I strongly believe Mr. McTarsney had good intentions, he was very wrong in his actions. The agent was legally parked and as such committed no crime. Had Mr. McTarsney believed the vehicle or agent was suspicious, he should have kept an eye on the vehicle and called 911 to report it without ever confronting the vehicle or agent. I am thankful this did not end up any worse and praise my agent for the way he handled the situation."

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For more Information Please Contact:

Gene Harley

Assistant Deputy Director

Public Information Officer

Chatham~Savannah

Counter Narcotics Team (CNT)

912.652.3900 Office

912.547.1131 Cell



